

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

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U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FILLS KEY OPERATING POSITIONS

Appointments to three key positions at the operating level in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service were announced today.

These jobs involve management of all Service technical assistance programs to state and local governments nationwide, the Endangered Species Programs of the Service, and the operation of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Named to head the Fish and Wildlife Service's new technical assistance programs nationwide was Jack H. Berryman, 53. This newly created division will combine several elements of the Service's staff and will provide technical assistance on fish and wildlife resource management and utilization to native Americans, other agencies, organizations and institutions, as well as to the private sector.

Under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and related legislation--as lands are claimed and land-use policies are developed--this division will help the Native corporations by providing resource assistance and training to Natives to enable them to develop fish and wildlife management and regulating programs for these resources on their lands. Part of the assistance and training will come from an expanded extension education approach.

Jack H. Berryman, a native of Utah, graduated from Westminster College in Salt Lake City and received his master's degree in ecology at the University of Utah. He is a veteran of World War II and holds the Silver Star and Purple Heart for action with the Marine Corps in the Pacific. He has worked for the Utah State Department of Fish and Game and the Service's Regional offices in Albuquerque and Minneapolis in fish and wildlife restoration work. He was Associate Professor of Wildlife Resources at Utah State University in the College of Forestry. Since 1965, he has served in the Service's Washington office as Chief, Division of Wildlife Services, and most recently as Acting Deputy Associate Director for Wildlife Management. Berryman is a past President of the Wildlife Society,

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a member of several other professional and scientific organizations, including the New York Academy of Sciences, and is the author of over 125 papers and publications on wildlife management, land use, extension education methods, and the regulation of animal numbers.

Named as Chief of the Office of Endangered Species was Dr. Ronald O. Skoog, 47. This office has far-reaching and new responsibilities under the 1973 Endangered Species Act including the sizable task of listing all worldwide species, subspecies, and lesser taxonomic groupings of plants and animals presently "endangered" or "threatened" in the foreseeable future with becoming endangered. Moreover, the office must provide the protection, conservation, management, systems development, and coordination needed to enhance the preservation of endangered or threatened species.

Dr. Skoog, a native of Chicago and an Air Corps and Marine Corps veteran, attended the University of Montana, the University of Alaska, and the University of California. He holds three degrees in civil engineering, zoology, and wildlife ecology.

He began his professional career in Alaska, working for five years with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on waterfowl nesting studies and five years for the Alaska Fish and Game Department where he concentrated on big game research and management. As a member of the University of Alaska Wildlife Research Unit he made field investigations of marten, muskrat, waterfowl and caribou, and became the state project leader on caribou. He was Assistant Curator of Mammals at the University of California. Skoog has also worked at the Serengeti Research Institute and done field research in Tanzania and Kenya on zebra. With the Bureau of Land Management he was a staff biologist in wildlife and with the Fish and Wildlife Service served as Chief of International Activities. He is the current chairman of the work group on Ecosystems of the Northern Regions set up to implement the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Environmental Protection Agreement of 1972.

Named to head up the National Wildlife Refuge System was James W. Pulliam, Jr., 38. His responsibilities include the management of over 350 National Wildlife Refuges which provide aquatic, coastal, woodland, desert, and mountain habitat for the Nation's wildlife. The system maintains a balanced wildlife management program for migratory birds, endangered species, and big game animals. The refuges also conduct public use and recreation programs for birdwatching, nature interpretation, young hunter training, public hunting and fishing, and environmental education.

Pulliam, a native of North Carolina and veteran wildlife manager of 16 years, was educated at North Carolina State University. He joined the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1958 after graduation. He served as assistant refuge manager at the Mingo NWR, Missouri. He was promoted to district manager on the Mark Twain NWR in Iowa within a year, and next gained experience as a wildlife biologist in South Dakota. From 1963 to 1966 he managed a Wetlands Acquisition Office in South Dakota and Lacassine NWR in Louisiana when he was transferred to Washington to become the Assistant Chief of Programs for the Division of Wildlife Refuges. In 1970 he moved to Albuquerque to become the Assistant Regional Supervisor of Refuges in the Southwest, and in 1972 he was back in Washington as the Assistant Chief of the Division of Refuges. He was named Acting Chief of the Division of Refuges in 1973.